

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00919 191319Z

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TAGS: EAID, PO

SUBJ: POSSIBLE INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN TRAS-OS-MONTES (TOM)

REF: LISBON 892

1. PENDING RECEIPT PROJECT DESCRIPTION PER PARA. 3 REFTEL, THE FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION MAY BE USEFUL TO AID/W FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES. (SOURCE: PORTARIA NUMBER 710/74. NOVEMBER 2, 1974.)

A. OBJECTIVES:

(1) THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE OF THE AUTONOMOUS PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOM PROVINCE IS THE EXECUTION OF ACTIONS LEADING TO IMPROVED CONDITIONS IN THE VEIGA DE CHAVES (IRRIGATION DISTRICT) PERIMETER; THE STUDY AND EXECUTION OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS ALONG THE CHAVES-VIAL PONCA AXIS AND FORESTATION OF UNUSED LAND.

(2) THE IRRIGATION AREA INCLUDES THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BOTICAS, CHAVES, MONTALEGRE, RIBEIRA DE PENHA AND VILA POUCA DE AGUIAR TOTALING 149,693 HECTARES. SOME 31,000 HECTARES REQUIRE RECONVERSION FOR INTENSIVE CULTIVATION. TO CONVERT ONE OF THE MOST DISADVANTAGED PROVINCES OF THE CONTINENT REQUIRES A RURAL ROAD NETWORK, RURAL ELECTRIFICATION, SMALL IRRIGATION PROJECTS, FOREST, ORCHARD AND LAND RECLAMATION ACTIVITIES. THE AREA COULD ALSO SUPPORT SOME 108,000 LIVESTOCK WITH AN ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF 8000 TONS OF MEAT.

ATTENTION MUST ALSO BE GIVEN TO SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND HEALTH RE-

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LISBON 00919 191319Z

QUIREMENTS AS WELL AS RELATED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING

INDUSTRY AND TOURISM.

(3) THE FOREST PORTION OF TOM IS 190,000 HECTARES OR 17 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL AREA OF THE PROVINCE. OF THIS TAOL SOME 40,000 HECTARES REQUIRE FORESTATION. A VARIETY OF STUDIES ARE NEEDED BEFORE UNDERTAKING THE FORESTATION PROGRAM.

(4) THE ESTIMATED POPULATION OF THE FIVE MUNICIPALITIES IN THE TOM AREA ACCORDING TO THE 1970 CENSUS WAS 108,935.

B. ADMINISTRATION:

(1) PROVISION IS MADE FOR AN AUTONOMOUS MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (PTM) REPORTING TO THE SECSTATE OF AGRICULTURE TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM.

(2) AMONG OTHER DUTIES, THE PTM IS EMPOWERED TO CONDUCT STUDIES AND DEVELOP PLANS CONTRACTING WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DOMESTIC GROUPS AND WITH FOREIGN ENTITIES AS MAY BE REQUIRED. WE WILL EXPLORE USE AID FEASIBILITY STUDY LOAN IN THIS CONNECTION.

(3) THE TOTAL COST ESTIMATE OF THE PROGRAM IS DOLS 14 MILLION, OF WHICH DOLS 800 THOUSAND APPROPRIATED FOR 1974. THERE IS NO BREAK-DOWN OF THESE FIGURES IN THE PORTARIA.

3. FORWARDING SCHWARTZWALDER COPY OF PORTARIA. WILL COMMENT FURTHER REGARDING POSSIBLE AID FINANCING AFTER RECEIPT AND REVIEW SECSTATE AGRICULTURE STUDIES. UNDERSTAND IBRD/FAO TEAM VISITED TOM. WOULD BE USEFUL CHECK IBRD PLANS.
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